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supposition that the analyzed material was heterogeneous. On the other hand, the two analyses by the author, made five years apart, and on quite different material, agreeing so well among themselves, point very strongly to the fact that instead of omitting the half atom, it has to be increased to a whole atom, and the formula of Jefferisite is therefore to be written—

$$R_5 \dot{R}_2 Si_5 O_{21} + 6H_2O \text{ (König)},$$

instead of—

$$R_4 \dot{R}_2 Si_5 O_{20} + 6H_2O \text{ (Cooke)}.$$

By doubling the molecules of Culsageeite and Protovermiculite their close affinity to Jefferisite is still more perceptible:—

Jefferisite	$R_5 \dot{R}_2 Si_5 O_{21} + 6H_2O$
Culsageeite	$R_6 \dot{R}_2 Si_6 O_{24} + 6H_2O$
Protovermiculite	$R_6 \dot{R}_2 Si_6 O_{24} + 2H_2O$.

Jefferisite and Culsageeite exfoliate with equal energy; the author is inclined to write the formulas of the three species in the above manner as a consequence, on mechanical principles.

JULY 10.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-four members present.

The death of David S. Brown was announced.

JULY 17.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirteen members present.

The resignation of Dr. Henry H. Smith, as a member, was read and accepted.

JULY 24.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Nine members present.

Note on Color Variation in Mammals.—Mr. J. A. RYDER called attention to the fact that many animals, when long domesticated, as the horse, ox, dog, and cat, were frequently asymmetrically colored. Horses were often seen with one white foot, or in extreme cases with three, while the white color sometimes extended further up the limb upon one side than upon the other. He had

frequently noticed the same sort of irregularity in the coloration of cattle. It was also noticeable in a very marked degree in rabbits and guinea-pigs, and he had recently seen some goats that were exceedingly asymmetrical in the disposition of color areas.

In studying color variation among feral animals he had noticed that such variations, so far as his observations had extended, were invariably symmetrical. In the case of a raccoon, in the collection of the Zoological Society of Philadelphia, where the variation from the typical coloration of the species was great, the color areas were disposed symmetrically in the same manner as in the ordinary specimens that were its companions in the same cage. The difference was only in the shade, this specimen being a rich brownish-yellow, except the annuli around the tail and the lateral bands on the face, which were of a considerably deeper hue. The nose, feet, and eyes in the ordinary specimens are black; in this specimen all the dermal structures had assumed a much lighter tint, nearly a flesh color. The iris has assumed a remarkably different tint from the jet black of the others, and it is a good illustration of the correlation in coloration of the pelt and eyes, without at the same time having reached total albinism. In a specimen of *Lepus sylvaticus* in the Academy's collection, said to be from New Jersey, the fur is cream colored, and very long and soft, but perfectly symmetrical and uniform in color, and in a specimen marked *L. audubonii*, from California, there is a symmetrically disposed median white band running from the parietal region to the muzzle. In rats, nearly white, the color areas were also found to be very nearly the same on both sides, and in two specimens of *Arvicola*, one with a white head was found to be colored symmetrically, and the other with white head and shoulders and white patches on the flanks and outer sides of thighs was also colored symmetrically. In specimens of Virginia deer in the collection of the Academy, where white and the usual color were separate, the same symmetry was noted as in the other feral specimens mentioned above.

In many domestic animals there is a most decided tendency to preserve, more or less, the symmetry of coloration of the ancestral type, but domestication seems to be at the bottom of the great variability and asymmetry of color of animals brought under its influence. The camel, however, seems to be an exception.

The following summary of the foregoing facts was offered:—

1. That bilateral symmetry of coloration is interfered with in some way by domestication.

2. That where variation in color takes place in feral animals, they are invariably, so far as observed, symmetrically colored.

3. That it is possible that the degree of asymmetry is an indication of the length of time that domestication has been operative.